GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3998
ANSWERED ON:27.03.2017
Inclusion of Places in Buddha and Gandhi Circuit
Dubey Shri Satish Chandra

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to include Rampurva, Lauriya, Chankigarh and Nandgarh in Balmiki, Napar constituency in Buddha and Gandhi circuit;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be included; and
(c) the details of tourist spots connected with Buddha circuit and Gandhi circuit in Bihar?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (c): For development of tourism infrastructure in the country, the Ministry of Tourism has launched Swadesh Darshan - Integrated Development of Theme-Based Tourist Circuits Scheme in 2014-15. Under the scheme, thirteen thematic circuits have been identified for development namely; North-East India Circuit, Buddhist Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Desert Circuit, Tribal Circuit, Eco Circuit, Wildlife Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit, Ramayana Circuit and Heritage Circuit. All sites associated with Buddhism in the country are covered under Buddhist Circuit.

Ministry of Tourism had sanctioned the project 'Construction of Cultural Centre adjacent to Maya Sarovar on the western side at Bodhgaya, Bihar' in 2014-15 under Buddhist Circuit theme with Central Financial Assistance of Rs.33.17 crore.
Development of Gandhi Circuit in Bihar is one of the projects identified for development under the Special Package for Bihar announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in 2015.

Under Swadesh Darshan Scheme, projects for development are identified in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations and are sanctioned subject to availability of funds, liquidation of pending utilization certificates, submission of suitable Detailed Project Report (DPR) and adherence to the scheme guidelines.

In addition to above, the following projects have also been sanctioned in Bihar:

(i) Development of Jain Circuit: Vaishali-Arrah-Masad-Patna-Rajgir-Pawapuri-Champapuri as Spiritual Circuit in Bihar under Swadesh Darshan Scheme with Central Financial Assistance of Rs.52.39 crore (2016-17).
(ii) Integrated Development of Kanwaria Route: Sultanganj − Dharmshala- Deoghar under Spiritual circuit in Bihar under Swadesh Darshan Scheme with Central Financial Assistance of Rs.52.35 crore (2016-17).
(iii) Development of basic facilities at Vishnupad temple, Gaya, Bihar under PRASAD Scheme with Central Financial Assistance of Rs.4.27 crore (2014-15).
(iv) Development at Patna Sahib in Bihar under PRASAD Scheme with Central Financial Assistance of Rs.41.54 crore (2015-16).

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